

Testimony before the 132nd Session of the Maine Legislature
Joint Judiciary Committee

Testimony in favor of LD 1259:

An Act to Enhance Public Safety in Maine by Defining the
Relationship Between Local and Federal Law Enforcement

Chairpersons Senator Carney and Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Committee, my name is Suzanne Rudalevige living in Cape Elizabeth.

I want to add my voice to the support of this Bill since I believe the law enforcement authorities of Maine should be solely under the State of Maine's control with no alliance to federal entities such as ICE.

Reading the newspaper summary of the Wells' Town Council meeting at which the Wells signing of an agreement with ICE was under discussion, I was disturbed by the apparent discrepancy of what the Town Council said would be the limited outcome of their actions under this agreement, and the much more pervasive language in the agreement which they had signed. That the agreement includes arresting and detaining immigrants beyond only cases where a legal federal warrant is in hand, has been confirmed by the Maine ACLU who have read the agreement in question.

I was also alarmed that Wells took this action without any input from its residents.

Thank you.